

CT-177
SILVERSPORN
Coster
Private

c. 1830

The oldest portion of the present house was built as a southern addition to a log house, apparently about 1830. This part of the house includes a room on the third floor once used as a school room. The third floor school room was in use as such while the log house was still being used. The log house was either torn down in the 1890's or the log house was incorporated into this northern addition. Somewhat later an existing separate "summer" kitchen was moved and attached to the north end of the house.

In the basement at the north end of the house are the remnants of a cold cellar or buttery that was originally cooled by a spring and had a water-filled trough for keeping dairy and meat products.

CT-177

SILVERSPOON SCHOOLROOM

(early 19th century; later additions)

Lusby Area

Private

According to the late Calvert County schoolteacher Jennie Tongue, she attended school in the house now known as Silverspoon in the late nineteenth century. Miss Tongue remembered that the school was held in an attic room of the house, a room presently used for storage.

Significant changes have been made to the room, including removal of a window and sheathing of the walls in sheetrock, but historic fabric remains, including first floor boards and stairway and a vertical board door.

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Silverspoon Schoolroom (CT-177)

a) Historical Period Theme: Social/Education/Cultural

b) Geographic Organization: Western Shore

c) Chronological/Developmental Period:

Industrial/Urban Dominance, A.D. 1870-1930

d) Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): house, school

Known Design Source: none

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. CT-177

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name

historic Silverspoon Schoolroom

and/or common

2. Location

street & number end, Cedar Lane

☐ not for publication

city, town Lusby

☒ vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Calvert

3. Classification

Category

☐ district

☒ building(s)

☐ structure

☐ site

☐ object

Ownership

☐ public

☒ private

☐ both

Public Acquisition

☐ in process

☐ being considered

☒ not applicable

Status

☒ occupied

☐ unoccupied

☐ work in progress

Accessible

☐ yes: restricted

☐ yes: unrestricted

☒ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture

☐ commercial

☐ educational

☐ entertainment

☐ government

☐ industrial

☐ military

☐ museum

☐ park

☒ private residence

☐ religious

☐ scientific

☐ transportation

☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Barbara Grosvenor

street & number P.O. Box 188

telephone no.: 410-326-4311

city, town Lusby

state and zip code MD 20657-0188

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Circuit Court Clerk's Office

liber JLB 128

street & number 175 Main Street

folio 252

city, town Prince Frederick

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. CT-177

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved

date of move _____

The house, named Silverspoon by the present owner, is believed to be an early nineteenth century log house that was later enlarged. The entire house is wood-framed and basically cross-gabled in plan, two stories in height with a usable attic. Approaching the house from the Cedar Lane side, one sees a two-story eaves fronted block at the south end. A two-story, gable-fronted block adjoins the north side of this first block. A narrower, two-story kitchen wing, is appended to the north wall of the second block. According to the present owner, this kitchen wing, which has a kitchen in the first story and a bathroom above, is believed to have been initially constructed as a separate summer kitchen and was later joined to the house. Shed-roofed porches adjoin the north end of the east wall of the south block, and a second shed-roofed porch adjoins the east wall of the former summer kitchen. The south end of the house was added in 1970. Its character as an addition is seen clearly on the water elevation where modern fenestration patterns and a clearly modern, large dormer are visible.

The schoolroom is located in the attic (third floor) of Silverspoon. Access is either by means of a hallway from the third floor of the 1970 addition, or by a narrow steep stairway from the second story of the eaves fronted portion of the earlier house. The classroom was substantially altered in 1970 when the house was altered and enlarged by its previous owner. Original plaster walls have been removed, and angled side walls and ceiling have been covered with sheetrock. The room is presently used for storage. A window, formerly located in the south wall, was removed when the addition was made to that end of the house.

Some historic fabric remains. This fabric includes the wide original floorboards, the vertical board door, and the simple narrow stairway that extends down to the second floor of the house.

8. Significance

Survey No. CT-177

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistory	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
 and/or
 Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
 Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

The use of the third floor as a schoolroom was mentioned by Miss Jennie Tongue who attended school there in the late nineteenth century. The teacher may have been her older sister, Ida Elizabeth. Miss Tongue remembered that students who misbehaved were forced to sit on the stairs leading down to the second floor. The exact dates of use of the room as a schoolroom are not known. The schoolroom may have been superceded early in the present century by the Hungerford Creek School (later known as Coster's School House). In the publication, "Fifty Years of Education in Calvert County," Miss Tongue remembered the first public school in the community:

The residents of the community...presented a petition to the Superintendent of Schools in the county, requesting a school for this area, the Board agreed to furnish the teacher if the community would supply the building. Mr. Ben Coster agreed to give the building, an old abandoned store that had one small window and old wooden counter. The children used the counter for desks and old wooden boxes as seats—thus the Hungerford Creek School was opened in 1896, with Sarah Jane Tongue as the teacher....After the school opened, Jane's brother-in-law made several homemade desks and benches for the children; this was a great help to both students and teacher (RTACC 1975).

Silverspoon is significant in part as the only identified site of a residential schoolroom in Calvert County.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-177

Retired Teachers Association of Calvert County. "Fifty Years of Education in Calvert County." 1975.
Grosvenor, Barbara. Interview with Douglas McVarish. May 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 6.72
Quadrangle name Solomons, MD
UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

A

Zone	Easting	Northing

C

E

G

B

Zone	Easting	Northing

D

F

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

Map 44, Parcel 6. This represents the portion of the historic property to which the present owner holds title.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Douglas C. McVarish, Project Architectural Historian

organization John Milner Associates, Inc.

date May 1998

street & number 1216 Arch Street, 5th Floor

telephone 215-561-7637

city or town Philadelphia

state PA

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

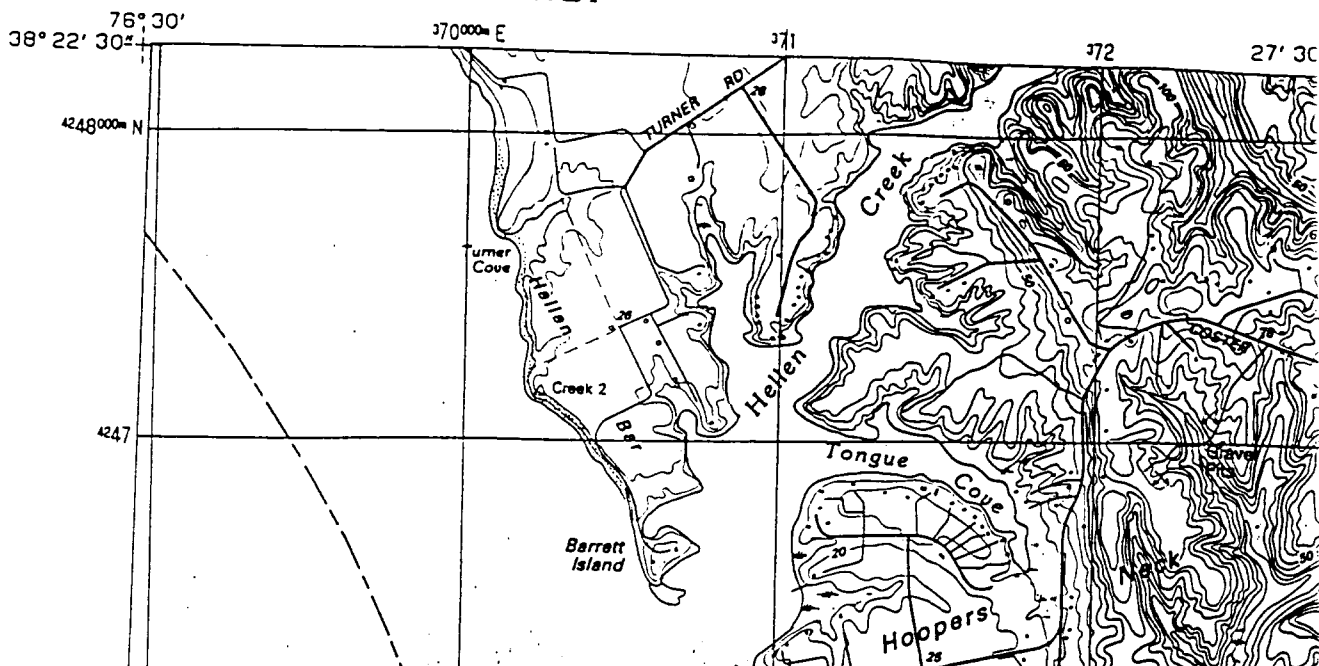
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032
(301-514-7600)

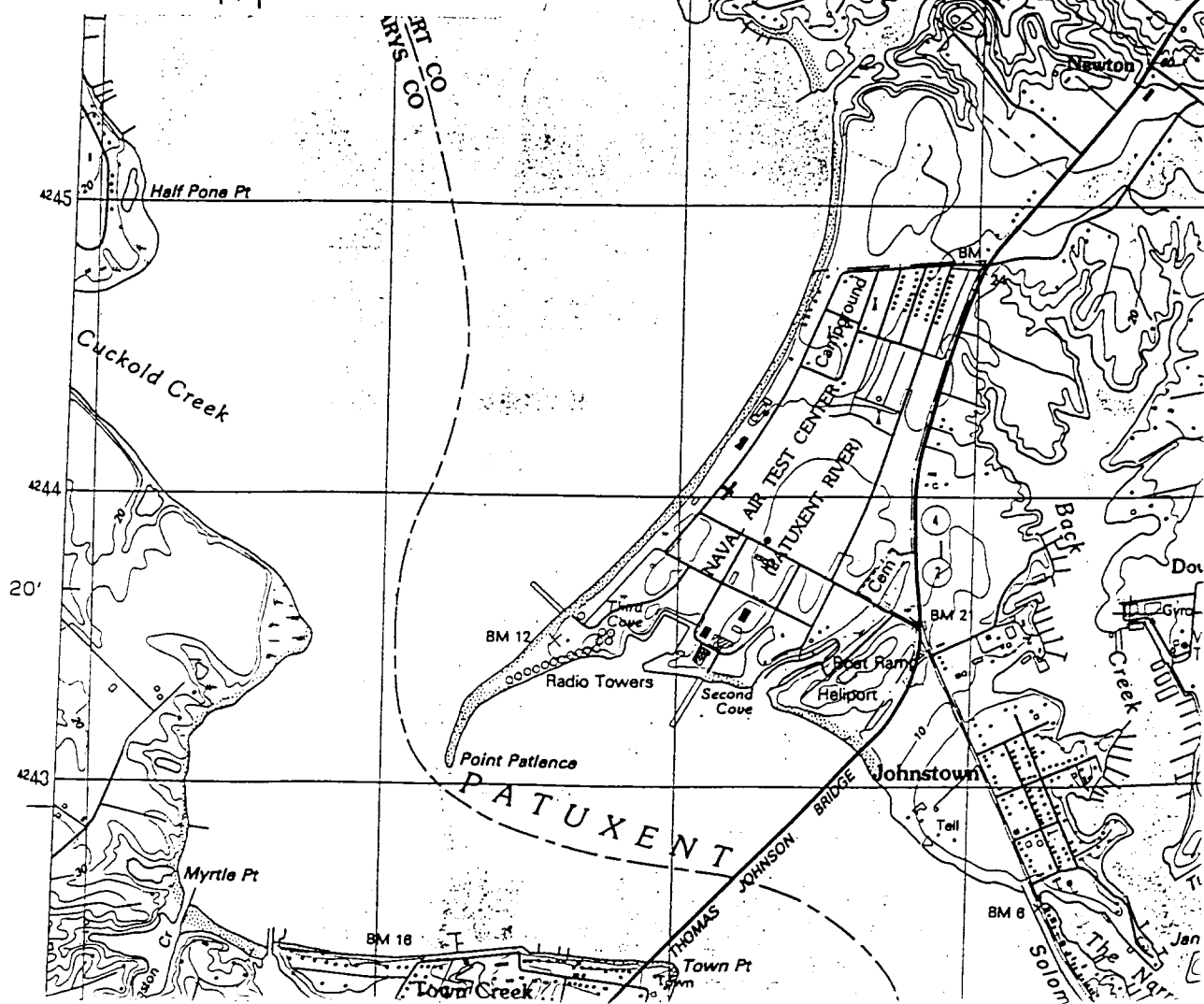
5820 1 NE
(COMES ISLAND)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Silverspoon Schoolroom
Lusby vicinity
Solomons Island quad

CT 177







4

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